

Tom Horne
Superintendent

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Contact: Amy Rezzonico, Press Secretary (602) 542-5072

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

SUPERINTENDENT TOM HORNE ANNOUNCES \$750,000 GRANT FOR STRUCTURED ENGLISH IMMERSION (SEI) PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

PHOENIX (Friday, July 30, 2004) -- Arizona Schools Chief Tom Horne announced today that the Department was awarded \$750,000 for Structured English Immersion (SEI) professional development. The grant will be used to develop and implement a “trainer-of-trainers” model.

Horne stated: “Nationally, only 13% of teachers who encounter English language students get 8 hours or more of training. I am proud that Arizona will be a leader in requiring all teachers and administrators to have 15 hours of training by August 31, 2006 and 60 hours of training eventually. This is consistent with our philosophy of not only requiring that students who are not proficient in English be enrolled in Structured English immersion rather than bilingual education, but also that ensuring that students learn English as quickly as possible so they can excel academically.”

Horne added: “This grant of \$750,000 will help the Department facilitate training of teachers in Structured English immersion, without putting undue financial burden on the teachers.”

The Department along with the Arizona K-12 Center will administer and evaluate the grant for 5 years. The “trainer-of-trainers” model will assist all school districts to deliver SEI training to all of their teachers and administrators.

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